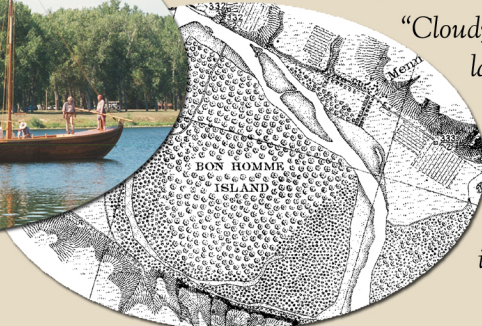




**September 1st, Saturday, 1804 (Clark)**

"Cloudy all day, the river wide & hills on each Side near the river, passd. A large Island which appeared to be composed of Sand. Covered with Cottonwood close under the SS we landed at the Lower point of a large Island Called bon homme or Good man, here Capt Lewis & my Self went out a Short distance on the LS to see a Beave(r) house, which was Said to be of Great Hite & situated in a Pond..."



**September 2nd, Sunday, 1804 (Clark)**

The Expedition spent a whole day examining and recording the dimensions of what they thought was an ancient fortification. The captain's imaginations and their knowledge of military fortifications misled them; all these formations were natural sand ridges formed during high water.



**September 3rd, Monday, 1804 (Clark)**

"we proceeded on, the river wide, took an obsivation below Plumb Creek... Great quantities of Plumbs of a most delisious flavour, I have collected the Seed of 3 kinds which I intend to Send to my brother, also Som grapes of a Superior quality large & well flavoured... Several wild Goats Seen in the Plains they are wild & fleet Elk & Buffalow is verry plenty, Scercely any timber in Countrey except a little on the river in the Points..."



**September 4th, Tuesday, 1804 (Clark)**

"Came to at the mouth of Qui courre (rapid) [the Niobrara River] this river Comes roleing its Sands whuch (is course) into the Missouri from the SW by W. this river is 152 yards across the water and not exceeding 4 feet Deep it does not rise high when it Does it Spreds over a large Surface, and is not navigable... I went up this river 3 miles to the Spot the Panis [Ponca] once had a large Village on the upper Side in a butifull extensive Plain rising gradually from the river..."

The following excerpt is taken from "The Journals of the Lewis & Clark Expedition"; Vol 8; Gary M. Moulton, editor; University of Nebraska Press

## Down the Missouri...

**September 1st, Monday, 1806 (Clark)**

"...at 2 P.M. we came too on the upper point of bonne homme opposite the ancient fortification and Sent out men to hunt on each Side and on the island. and the canoes on each Side of the island to receive any meat might be killed. I walked on the N.E. main Shore found the bottom rich and thickly covered with Peavine rich weed grass interwoven in Such a manner with grape vines that I could not get through and was obliged to assend a high plains the passing through which also found tiresome. the grass was nearly as high as my head and the musquitors excessively bad. at the lower point of the Island all the canoes and hunters Came together. Labeech killed an Elk only the flesh of which was brought on in the perogue. at this island we brought two years together or on the 1st of Septr. 1804 we Encamped at the lower point of this island. after we all came together we then proceeded on down to a large Sand bar immediately opposite to the place where we met the Yanktons in Council at Calumet Bluffs at which place we left on the 11 of Septr. 1804. I observed our old flag Staff or pole Standing as we left it..."

Bon Homme Island, now inundated by Lewis and Clark Lake, was between Bon Homme County and Knox County. The party first reached it on September 1, 1804. The "ancient fortification" consisted of natural sand ridges which Clark sketched and described on September 2, 1804, and again on this date, September 1, 1806.